HI-TECH FIREARMS: PROOF RESEARCH



PROFINE SEARCE

Hayden Sturgeon shoots the latest hi-tech hunting rifles...

roof Research has arrived in New Zealand. The NZ Ammunition Co in Upper Hutt has secured the New Zealand agency for Proof Research which is exciting for all involved. The partnership between the two companies will allow Kiwi customers to finally get their hands on all types of Proof made products.

Proof Research is based out of Columbia Falls in northwest Montana USA, and prides itself on being a leader in its field. Proof is an innovative company that strives to set new industry standards, giving them the edge in producing their carbon fibre-wrapped barrels, precision steel barrels, and some of the finest custom built rifles based

on their customer's specifications.

The company was established back in 2010 and formed by merging two separate operations. One of these was Jense Precision, a custom rifle builder, and the other, Advanced Barrel Systems, owned the patent for carbon fibrewrapped barrels. In order to achieve the quality control they wanted, along with guaranteed accuracy, Proof also acquired a composite stock building facility (Lone Wolf Stocks)

plus a precision steel barrel company with a reputation for accuracy. To complete the total package an advanced composite material company working with high durability adhesive materials was also secured.

As customers we can now expect premium 416R stainless barrels wrapped in aerospace fibre materials and resins that the company claims are up to 64% lighter than similar contoured steel barrels, but still deliver match grade accuracy. Most barrels

"FOLLOWING THE SIKA SHOW THE NZ AMMUNITION CO. HOSTED A SEMINAR IN UPPER HUTT WHERE A MIX OF CLIENTS WERE ABLE TO SHOOT THE PROOF CUSTOM RIFLES AT THE KAITOKE RANGE."



More carbon, less steel. This barrel cut away illustrates how Proof are able to make such lightweight barrel options.

are cut-rifled, but Proof Research also has a button-rifling capability. The barrels also have a unique one-off look. But if you're not in the market for a carbonwrapped barrel there are 416R stainless steel barrels of all contours that are cut-rifled and stress relieved.



Proof also offers pre-fit barrels that come chambered in a mix of calibres for Ruger RPR, Savage, Accuracy International and ARs to name a few. They are planning to make Tikka pre-fit barrels in the near future in recognition of the fact that Tikkas are a wide-spread, popular rifle here in New Zealand.

Proof Research also offers complete rifle builds starting with the Summit Lightweight Mountain rifle and advancing to the **Terminus Ultimate Long**

Nice shooting Hayden!), shot at 200 metres with Norma factory ammo, are the kind of accuracy Proof Research's hunting rifles can deliver.

Range Hunter or the TAC Il Ultimate Tactical Rifle. Proof also incorporates a custom switch-barrel option and there is also a titanium option being finalised right now, along with a complete build called the Traverse that will come at a competitive price for an off-the-shelf rifle. In time, componentry like



stocks and actions will also be made available.

All rifles are test-fired prior to reaching the end-user to ensure 1/2" MOA accuracy or better, which is all done in the company's state of the art indoor 100 metre range. If you weren't at the Sika Show this year you missed the chance to handle a couple of rifle options on display at the NZ Ammunition stand. Proof Research staff members Kelly Streiff (Director of

Ben and Kelly, Proof Research's Development **Engineer** and Director of Sales respectively, were at the Kaitoke Range to demonstrate the new technology.

Sales) and Ben White (Weapons Development Engineer) had flown over to help introduce the company to NZ hunters and shooters, which was received very well.

Following the Sika Show the NZ Ammunition Co. hosted a seminar in Upper Hutt where a mix of clients were able to shoot the Proof custom rifles at the Kaitoke Range. Even though the conditions were less than favourable there were some fantastic groups shot at 200 metres, with the smallest groups shrinking to 9mm with the 6.5 Creedmoor shooting Norma factory supplied ammunition. Ben and Kelly gave a great presentation on what Proof Research is planning moving forward, and expertly answered all the technical questions asked of them. A special thanks must go to Paul and Jenny Clark along with Craig and Lynda Wilson from NZ Ammunition Co. for delivering a quality new brand to the NZ market.

Hayden

THE PROOF RESEARCH RIFLE LINE-UP:

